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JUN 23 2004

Local Boundary Commission



Alaskan Suites of Homer

3255 Sterling Hwy.
Homer, AK 99603
(888)239-1972
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To Whom It May Concern:

It is our understanding that this annexation is not yet finalized. The question that is being asked right now is, "Is annexation in the best interest of the state?" However, our question and the question of those being annexed is, "Is annexation in the best interest of the people?"

The State of Alaska is the people. The government is "by the people, for the people". So, in effect both of the above questions are the same. My opinion is in regards to the effect of annexation on the people of the State of Alaska.

I personally would not be against being annexed if my taxes were to be used to benefit me, my business, my neighbors and my family. I would love to pay taxes and have city water and sewer and other benefits that being a part of the city *should* provide. However, I am presently paying taxes to the city and receiving NO benefit. In fact, my comfort level in regards to protection by our police force has greatly decreased. When I relied on State troopers, I had no doubt of their immediate response. I'm still waiting on Homer Police to return my emergency phone call from a year ago.

Allow me to further explain. I own a lodge in Homer – Alaskan Suites. On August 23, 2003, I had a guest who needed to leave. She would not leave. She was not agreeable. She was verbally abusive and foul. We were actually at the point where we had no choice but to call the police in order to *safely* remove this woman. We called Homer police. The dispatch lady forwarded us but no one was available so she put us through to a voice mail. We left a message but never heard back from them. We discovered why. It was our intention to go to our son's football game that day, but my husband had to track down this woman's husband and ask him to come control his wife and remove her from the property. The police were at the football game. We never heard back from them. We did not make it to our son's game. We did the job of the Homer Police.

I pay taxes. I get no services. I get no city water. I get no city septic. I get no city benefits. From what we understand, it will not happen in our lifetime. Even before this annexation, the city did not provide water and septic to all that they already claimed. If the city desires to annex more then first, they should be able to provide to those they have.

One more point in regards to being able to use the library and the animal shelter as a part of city benefit. The city is so strapped that they need to get donations to build these new city offices and that is after they are receiving my taxes. Maybe they should not be building a library or animal shelter. Maybe they should be hiring an accountant.

What is good for the people? That their voices be heard. Should you annex? Ask the people in the city and in the borough and I believe throughout both you would hear a resounding "No." Where's the vote?

Sincerely,

Sharon Bouman

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Bouman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name.